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(US). **GOVARDHAN, Chandrika, P.** [US/US]; 9 Scotland Road, Lexington, MA 02420 (US). **YANG, Mark, X.** [US/US]; 59 Bridge Street, Newton, MA 02458 (US). **MARGOLIN, Alexey, L.** [US/US]; 193 Upland Avenue, Newton, MA 02161 (US).

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(74) Agents: **PIERRI, Margaret, A.** et al.; c/o Fish & Neave, 1251 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10020 (US).

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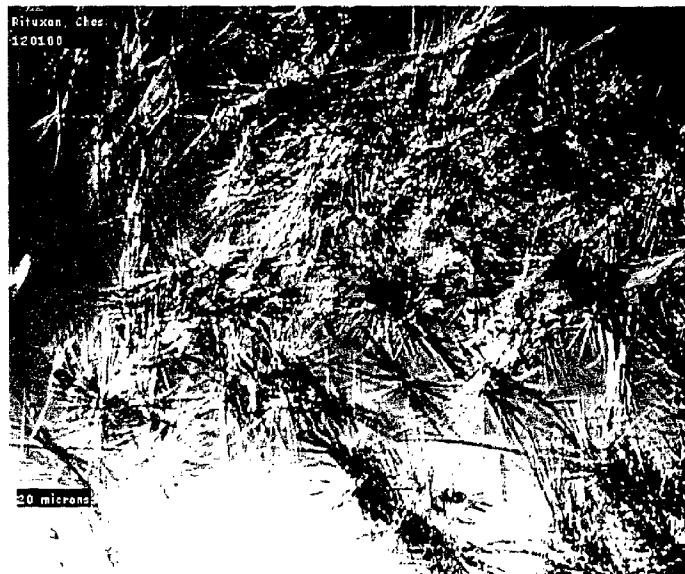
(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): **ALTUS BIOLOGICS INC.** [US/US]; 625 Putnam Avenue, Cambridge, MA 02139-4807 (US).

(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): **SHENOY, Bhami** [US/US]; 16 Westgate Drive, T-6, Woburn, MA 01801

(54) Title: CRYSTALS OF WHOLE ANTIBODIES AND FRAGMENTS THEREOF AND METHODS FOR MAKING AND USING THEM

Rituximab Crystals



(57) Abstract: Methods are also provided for preparing stabilized formulations of whole antibody crystals or antibody fragment crystals using pharmaceutical ingredients or excipients and optionally encapsulating the crystals or crystal formulations in a polymeric carrier to produce compositions and using such protein crystals for biomedical applications, including delivery of therapeutic proteins and vaccines.

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PCT/US 01/49628

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 7	C07K16/00	A61K39/395	G01N33/53	A61K47/06	A61K47/36
	A61K47/38	A61K47/42	A61P35/00	G01N33/569	

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 C07K A61K

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

MEDLINE, EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ, BIOSIS, CHEM ABS Data, EMBASE

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	<p>HARRIS L J ET AL: "Crystallographic structure of an intact IgG1 monoclonal antibody." JOURNAL OF MOLECULAR BIOLOGY. ENGLAND 6 FEB 1998, vol. 275, no. 5, 6 February 1998 (1998-02-06), pages 861-872, XP002208332 ISSN: 0022-2836 abstract page 861, column 1, line 7 -column 2, paragraph 2 page 869, column 1, paragraph 6 -column 2, paragraph 1</p> <p>-----</p> <p>-/-</p>	1,4,11



Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.



Patent family members are listed in annex.

° Special categories of cited documents :

- "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- "E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- "P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.

"&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

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Name and mailing address of the ISA

European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2
NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk
Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,
Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Montrone, M

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No
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C (Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	<p>WO 99 55310 A (MARGOLIN ALEXEY L ;RAKESTRAW SCOTT L (US); KHALAF NAZER K (US); SH) 4 November 1999 (1999-11-04)</p> <p>abstract</p> <p>page 1, line 4-12</p> <p>page 1, line 25</p> <p>page 2, line 3-32</p> <p>page 3, line 26-33</p> <p>page 8, line 20-33</p> <p>page 9, line 10-29</p> <p>page 10, line 1-28</p> <p>page 14, line 4-27</p> <p>page 15, line 11-16</p> <p>page 16, line 3,4</p> <p>page 16, line 27 -page 17, line 4</p> <p>page 18, line 8-16</p> <p>page 28, line 24 -page 29, line 13</p> <p>page 29, line 14-18</p> <p>page 30, line 18-26</p> <p>page 36, line 22-29</p> <p>page 37, line 16</p> <p>page 39, line 31</p> <p>page 41, line 1-12</p> <p>page 51, line 22 -page 54, line 16</p> <p>page 54, line 17-25</p> <p>page 60, line 24 -page 61, line 24</p> <p>page 66, line 26 -page 67, line 25</p> <p>page 68, line 1 -page 69, line 7</p> <p>page 71, line 1 -page 72, line 26</p> <p>page 78, line 6 -page 79, line 5</p> <p>page 81, line 25 -page 82, line 13</p> <p>page 93, line 8 -page 94, line 16</p> <p>page 112, line 15 -page 113, line 16</p> <p>page 116, line 7 -page 118, line 18</p> <p>---</p>	1,4,11, 21-30, 32-68, 74-78
X	<p>US 6 011 001 A (NAVIA MANUEL A ET AL)</p> <p>4 January 2000 (2000-01-04)</p>	1,4,11, 17,18, 21-23, 33, 40-42, 70-73, 76-78
Y	<p>abstract</p> <p>column 3, line 10-60</p> <p>column 10, line 14-19</p> <p>column 11, line 11-22</p> <p>column 28, line 54 -column 29, line 23</p> <p>column 32, line 10 -column 33, line 2</p> <p>column 33, line 33-47</p> <p>column 34, line 27-62</p> <p>column 47, paragraphs 41-52</p> <p>column 49, line 38-56</p> <p>column 55, line 51-54</p> <p>---</p>	43-68, 74,75

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International Application No
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C/(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 6 140 475 A (MARGOLIN ALEXEY L ET AL) 31 October 2000 (2000-10-31) abstract column 6, line 42-61 column 8, line 19 -column 9, line 67 column 10, line 42 -column 11, line 18 column 15, line 1-10 column 32, line 46-62 column 34, line 65 -column 35, line 16 column 39, line 14-32 ----	1,4,11, 21-23, 32-34, 39-68, 74-78
X	KÜTTNER G ET AL: "A phage library-derived single-chain Fv fragment in complex with turkey egg-white lysozyme: characterization, crystallization and preliminary X-ray analysis." MOLECULAR IMMUNOLOGY. ENGLAND FEB 1998, vol. 35, no. 3, February 1998 (1998-02), pages 189-194, XP002208333 ISSN: 0161-5890 abstract page 190, column 2, paragraph 3 page 193, column 1, paragraph 5 ----	2,4,11
X	BRADEN B C ET AL: "X-ray crystal structure of an anti-Buckminsterfullerene antibody fab fragment: biomolecular recognition of C(60)." PROCEEDINGS OF THE NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA. UNITED STATES 24 OCT 2000, vol. 97, no. 22, 24 October 2000 (2000-10-24), pages 12193-12197, XP002208334 ISSN: 0027-8424 abstract page 12193, column 2, paragraph 2 ----	3,4,11
X	MYLVAGANAM S E ET AL: "STRUCTURAL BASIS FOR THE BINDING OF AN ANTI-CYTOCHROME C ANTIBODY TO ITS ANTIGEN: CRYSTAL STRUCTURES FO FABE8-CYTOCHROME C COMPLEX TO 1.8 A RESOLUTION AND FABE8 TO 2.26 A RESOLUTION" JOURNAL OF MOLECULAR BIOLOGY, LONDON, GB, vol. 281, no. 2, 14 August 1998 (1998-08-14), pages 301-322, XP001088724 ISSN: 0022-2836 abstract page 302, column 1, paragraph 2 page 318, column 1, paragraphs 3,4 ----	3,4,11, 17,18

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No
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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	WO 00 52150 A (GENENCOR INT ;HENG MENG HONG (US)) 8 September 2000 (2000-09-08) abstract page 2, line 3-15 page 3, line 14-27 page 4, line 14-17 page 5, line 25-34 page 6; table 6 claim 1 ----	43-68, 74,75
Y	US 6 042 824 A (KHALAF NAZER K) 28 March 2000 (2000-03-28) abstract column 5, line 24-51 column 6, line 1-13 column 7, line 28-66 column 9, line 10-49 column 11, line 47-51 column 12, line 14-16 column 13, line 5-21 column 13, line 67 -column 14, line 4 ----	43-68, 74,75
Y	US 4 334 024 A (JOHAL SARJIT) 8 June 1982 (1982-06-08) abstract column 3, line 56 -column 4, line 3 column 4, line 14 -column 5, line 16 ----	43-68, 74,75
Y	WO 91 09943 A (NOVONORDISK AS) 11 July 1991 (1991-07-11) abstract page 2, line 1-30 page 4, line 17-23 page 5, line 15-23 page 10, line 14-16 page 11, line 1-15 page 12, line 15-19 ----	43-68, 74,75
A	BLANCO DOLORES ET AL: "Protein encapsulation and release from poly(lactide-co-glycolide) microspheres: Effect of the protein and polymer properties and of the co-encapsulation of surfactants." EUROPEAN JOURNAL OF PHARMACEUTICS AND BIOPHARMACEUTICS, vol. 45, no. 3, May 1998 (1998-05), pages 285-294, XP002221361 ISSN: 0939-6411 abstract ----	1-4,11, 17,18, 21-30, 32-42, 70-73, 76-78

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
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Box I Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 1 of first sheet)

This International Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. Claims Nos.: because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
Although claims 40-42, 77 and 78 are directed to a method of treatment of the human/animal body, the search has been carried out and based on the alleged effects of the antibody crystals.
2. Claims Nos.: 5, 7, 16, 31 because they relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically:
see FURTHER INFORMATION sheet PCT/ISA/210
3. Claims Nos.: because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box II Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

see additional sheet

1. As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all searchable claims.
2. As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3. As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:

1-4, 11, 17, 18, 21-30, 32-68, 70-78

4. No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

Remark on Protest

The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.

No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

This International Searching Authority found multiple (groups of) inventions in this international application, as follows:

Invention 1: claim 1 (complete), 4, 11, 17, 18,
21-30, 32-42, 70-73 and 76-78 (all partial)

Crystals of a whole antibody; Compositions and formulations thereof; Methods for use.

Invention 2: claim 2 (complete), 4, 11, 17, 18,
21-30, 32-42, 70-73 and 76-78 (all partial)

Crystals of single-chain Fv fragments of an antibody;
Compositions and formulations thereof; Compositions and formulations thereof; Methods for use.

Invention 3: claim 3 (complete), 4, 11, 17, 18,
21-30, 32-42, 70-73 and 76-78 (all partial)

Crystals of a Fab fragment of an antibody; Compositions and formulations thereof; Compositions and formulations thereof; Methods for use.

Inventions 4-48: claims 12, 19, 43-69, 74,
75 (all complete), 4, 6, 8-11, 13-15, 17, 18,
20-30, 32-42, 70-73, 76-78 (all partial)

Crystals of polyclonal, monoclonal, chimeric, humanised, non-glycosylated, bispecific, human, mouse, IgG, IgM, IgA, IgD, IgE, anti-idiotypic, Rituximab, Infliximab, Trastuzumab, Abciximab, Palivizumab, Murumonab-CD3, Gemtuzumab, Basiliximab, Dacizumab, Etanercept, Ibritumomab, anti-TNF, anti-CD3, anti-CD20, anti-CD25, anti-CD33, anti-CD40, anti-HER2, anti-HBV, anti-HAV, anti-HCV, anti-GPIIb/IIIa receptor, anti-RSV, anti-HIV, anti-HSV, anti-EBV antibodies; dried crystals of whole, single-chain Fv and Fab fragments. Compositions and formulations thereof; Methods for use. In addition, methods for large-batch crystallisation and for protein purification are considered to be separate inventions.

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

Continuation of Box I.2

Claims Nos.: 5,7,16,31

Present claims 5, 7, 16 and 31 relate to a product defined by reference to a desirable characteristic or property, namely a crystal of a therapeutic antibody or an antibody used for the treatment of various diseases or the crystal is a carrier-free pharmaceutical controlled release crystal.

The claims cover all antibody crystals having this characteristic or property, whereas the application provides support within the meaning of Article 6 PCT and/or disclosure within the meaning of Article 5 PCT for only a very limited number of such crystals. In the present case, the claims so lack support, and the application so lacks disclosure, that a meaningful search over the whole of the claimed scope is impossible. Independent of the above reasoning, the claims also lack clarity (Article 6 PCT). An attempt is made to define the crystal by reference to a result to be achieved. Again, this lack of clarity in the present case is such as to render a meaningful search over the whole of the claimed scope impossible. Consequently, the search has been carried out for those parts of the claims which appear to be clear, supported and disclosed, namely those parts relating to the crystals of an whole antibody.

The applicant's attention is drawn to the fact that claims, or parts of claims, relating to inventions in respect of which no international search report has been established need not be the subject of an international preliminary examination (Rule 66.1(e) PCT). The applicant is advised that the EPO policy when acting as an International Preliminary Examining Authority is normally not to carry out a preliminary examination on matter which has not been searched. This is the case irrespective of whether or not the claims are amended following receipt of the search report or during any Chapter II procedure.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No

PCT/US 01/49628

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

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